



ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 220 22nd February, 2010

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GRAND HYATT HOTEL
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12-16 APRIL 2010
International Oil Spill Conference
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IMO: ISM CODE, 2010 EDITION, NOW AVAILABLE

Now available from IMO is the 2010 edition of the International Safety Management (ISM) Code, which includes all related guidelines and consolidates all amendments to the Code adopted since the last edition was published in 2002.

The 2010 edition is an essential reference for maritime administrations, ship manufacturers, owners and operators, shipping companies, academia, engine and equipment manufacturers and others with an interest in ensuring safety at sea and avoidance of damage to the environment.

ISM Code and guidelines on implementation of the ISM Code, 2010 Edition, is available from authorized distributors http://www.imo.org/Publications/mainframe.asp?topic_id=429 and via IMO's online bookshop. For further information, please consult the IMO website at www.imo.org.

INTERNATIONAL SALVAGE UNION ANNOUNCES NEW VICE PRESIDENT



The International Salvage Union has announced that Mr Andreas Tsavliris has been elected as its Vice President. The appointment is effective immediately.

President of the ISU, Mr Todd Busch, said: "I am delighted to welcome Andreas as the ISU's new Vice President. He brings energy and a wealth of knowledge and experience having worked in the salvage industry for some 40 years. I look forward to working with him as we tackle the many issues facing our industry."

Mr Andreas Tsavliris is one of the principals of Tsavliris Salvage. He joined the firm in 1970 and has worked in many different departments in the company. Mr Tsavliris has been a member of the ISU Executive Committee since 2006. He is also a member of the executive board of the Greek Shipowners' Union in London (GSCC); a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers (FICS); an associate member of the Institute of Arbitrators (AIArb); a member of the Chartered Insurance Institute (CII) and a member of European Tugowners' Association. He was also an underwriting member of Lloyds for over 30 years. For the complete text of the announcement from the International Salvage Union go to: http://www.marine-salvage.com/media_information/index.asp?page=press/ISU%20announces%20new%20Vice%20President.htm

EUROPE: IMPLEMENTATION OF RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES FOR OIL AND CHEMICAL SPILLS IN THE EUROPEAN MARINE ENVIRONMENT (RAMOCS)

The RAMOCS project is funded by the AMPERA ERANET, a European co-ordination to foster prevention and best response to accidental marine pollution. The primary objective is to develop fingerprinting tools for heavy oils and new products and to assess their risk in spills in different European regional seas scenarios. The specific objectives are the following –

- To improve fingerprinting tools for heavy oil for source recognition in the marine environment.
- To improve assessment tools for heavy oil weathering in the marine environment.
- To develop strategies to assess the major weathering processes (dissolution, photo-oxidation, biodegradation) affecting the spillage of hazardous noxious substances.
- To develop methodologies for identifying the toxic species occurring in the spills by using bioassay-directed analysis.
- To establish toxicity thresholds of toxic components in sensitive species considering single and combined joint effects.
- Application of the developed tools to several case studies and define a general strategy to be included in the response/contingency plans, for its use in a European dimension.

For more information about the RAMOCS Project, go to: <http://www.idaea.csic.es/ramocs/>

USA: FBI CLOSES ANTHRAX CASE, SAYS SCIENTIST WAS KILLER



In this October 30, 2001 file photo, members of the U.S. Marine Corps' Chemical-Biological Incident Response Force demonstrate anthrax clean-up techniques during a news conference in on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Washington, February 20, 2010 - Washington: Wrapping up one of its most vexing investigations, the FBI concluded that Army scientist Bruce Ivins acted alone in the 2001 anthrax mailings that killed five people.

The agency formally closed the case on Friday, ending the long, frustrating hunt for the killer after years of false leads, no arrests and public criticism.

The anthrax spores killed five people: two postal workers in Washington, a New York City hospital worker, a Florida photo editor and a 94-year-old Connecticut woman who had no known contact with any of the poisoned letters. Seventeen other people were sickened.

Read the complete report at: <http://gulfnnews.com/news/world/usa/fbi-closes-anthrax-case-says-scientist-was-killer-1.585742>

INDIA: ADVANCES MADE IN MARINE OIL AND HNS SPILL CONTINGENCY PLANNING

The Fourteenth “National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) and Preparedness” meeting, the second bi-annual meeting of 2009 was held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 17th Nov 09.

The important issues which were discussed and deliberated upon during the meeting were the establishment Tier-I facilities in major ports, setting up of oil spill response organisation, preparation of contingency plan for HNS, preparation of contingency plan by the coastal states for oil pollution, creation of website for placing all critical information relating to sensitive areas, tie-up for salvage and ETVs, MoU with littoral states near A&N islands and oil spill legislations. All delegates actively participated in the meeting, and points meriting attention were discussed and decisions were taken. The proceedings of the meeting can be found at : http://indiancoastguard.nic.in/indiancoastguard/NOSDCP/14THNOSDCP/14th%20NOSDCP_files/NOC%20DCP.pdf

UK: MANAGEMENT OF BULK STORAGE TANKS

Following the Buncefield incident the importance of preventing loss of containment from bulk storage tanks has come to the fore. A significant factor in ensuring contained fluids are not accidentally released is the continuing mechanical integrity of the tank structure. With this in mind, the joint industry/Competent Authority Process Safety Leadership Group has set up a working group to establish agreed industry standards for bulk storage tank integrity management.

The Health and Safety Laboratory on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) was commissioned to produce a review of relevant published standards pertaining to the management of the mechanical integrity of bulk storage tanks. The findings from this review are reported in the full report below.

This report and the work it describes were funded by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). Its contents, including any opinions and/or conclusions expressed, are those of the author alone and do not necessarily reflect HSE policy.

<http://www.sro.hse.gov.uk/PublicPages/ShowArticle.aspx?id=143>

The full report is available for free downloading from the HSE web site: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr760.pdf>

[Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Associate Member, DG & Hazmat Group, for providing this news alert]



USA: OPERATORS OF CARGO SHIP IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY SPILL FINED \$10M

San Francisco, February 19, 2010 - A federal judge on Friday fined a Hong Kong, China-based company \$10 million after the cargo ship it operated caused a massive oil spill in San Francisco Bay in 2007. U.S. District Court Judge Susan Illston also ordered Fleet Management Inc. to better train its officers in navigation and safety.

Court documents showed the company acknowledging its crew was poorly trained and the master failed to stop the pilot from leaving port in thick fog the morning of the accident. Fleet agreed to the punishment in August when it pleaded guilty to obstruction, making false statements and negligent discharge of oil.

The 900-foot Cosco Busan spilled 53,000 gallons of oil on the foggy morning of Nov. 7, 2007, after sideswiping a San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge tower.

AUSTRALIA: RISK 2010 CONFERENCE – DELIVERING NEW INITIATIVES

Melbourne, March 10-12, 2010 – Jom3205 of ISCO Associate Member, DG & Hazmat Group, writes “There's a great conference coming up in Melbourne in March: "RISK 2010 -delivering new initiatives. Our keynote speaker is William Hoyle. Bill was Investigations Manager with the US Chemical Safety Board from 2000-2008. He directed more than 30 accident investigations, including the 2005 Texas City BP refinery accident. Bill will talk on the work of the CSB & future challenges”.

More info: <http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/risk/>

STUDY: BACTERIA CAN HELP CLEAN UP FUEL-CONTAMINATED SITES



Brussels - Fuel spillages and leaks from petroleum storage facilities can lead to serious pollution of soils and underground water. In a recent study, two strains of Rhodococcus bacteria were found to be effective at degrading a number of petroleum hydrocarbons and thus helping clean up contaminated sites. Fuels can be significant pollutants of soils and groundwater, especially around fuel storage facilities where spills and leaks from faulty pipelines and underground storage

tanks can lead to contamination by a mixture of petroleum compounds.

These pollutants have different solubilities in water and different rates of breakdown in the environment. Furthermore, the different compounds found in diesel oil, petrol (gasoline) and fuel additives can interact with each other to create new effects. For instance, the solubility of some compounds can be enhanced, or the mobility of others can be increased.

In this study, the researchers investigated the capacities of Rhodococcus bacteria to break down a wide range of petroleum hydrocarbons and fuel additives, such as MTBE (methyl tert-butyl ether) and ETBE (ethyl tert-butyl ether). These additives, used to raise the octane number, have a large contamination potential.

A mixture of bacteria was cultured from samples taken from different environments, including soil from a petrol station polluted by leaking tanks. From this mixture of bacteria were isolated and tested for their capacity, individually or together, to biodegrade a mixture of 16 hydrocarbons and additives. The selection and the study of certain bacteria is of great interest because it could facilitate the study of the effects of selective pressure in terms of gene acquisition. Read the complete article: <http://www.recyclingportal.eu/artikel/23639.shtml>

UPDATED INFORMATION LINKS

Technology Innovation News Survey: The December 16-31, 2009 *Technology Innovation News Survey* has been posted to the CLU-IN web site. The *Survey* contains market/commercialization information; reports on demonstrations, feasibility studies and research; and other news relevant to the hazardous waste community interested in technology development. The latest survey is available at: <http://www.clu-in.org/products/tins/>

Technology News and Trends: The February 2010 issue of *Technology News and Trends* has been posted to the CLU-IN web site. This issue is available at: <http://www.clu-in.org/products/newsitrs/tandt/>

Soil & Groundwater Events Update February 2010: On Environmental Expert website at http://www.environmental-expert.com/newsletter/Events_Soil_Groundwater_16022010.htm

USA: BIODEFENCE 2010 CONFERENCE

Washington, May 3-4, 2010 - BioDefense 2010 is the first conference to evaluate the state of America's biodefense readiness. Its speakers will present on the areas of strategy and policy; on collaboration, detection and situational awareness; as well as on consequence management. They will bring with them perspectives hone in all corners of government. At the conclusion of the conference we will produce an executive-level report on our findings and recommendations, including any areas of disagreement that need further resolution.

More info at: <http://biodefenseconference.com/index.html>

USA: SPRING 2010 APICOM MEETING

Fort Lauderdale, Florida, May 12-14, 2010 – Meeting of the Association of Petroleum Industry Co-Op Managers. More info at: <http://www.apicom.org/upcomingevents.html>

IRELAND: ISAA ALL-IRELAND SRO ACCREDITATION SCHEME

Dublin – 25th March, 2010, 1030 hrs at Irish Coastguard HQ – Meeting of the International Spill Accreditation Association's All-Ireland Scheme Steering Committee. Intending attendees should contact the ISAA Administrator at info@spillcontrol.org

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this Newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. If an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in the next issue of this Newsletter.